II. AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Amendment Made herein and Summary of Status of Claims

Claims 1-40 have been pending in this application. Please amend claims 1-40, without prejudice. No new matter has been introduced with the amended claims.

■   ### Statement with Respect to Scope of Amended and Non-Amended Claims

Revisions to the claim set is made in order to streamline prosecution of this case in order to obtain early allowance of embodiments that are presently anticipated to be of commercial significance and in response to the Examiner's restriction requirement which has been made final in the Office Action, and are not made for a purpose of patentability. Any amendment, cancellation, withdrawal or addition made herein with respect to the claims should not be construed in any manner as indicating Applicant's surrender of any subject matter of the application, or surrender of any equivalent to any element asserted in one or more claims. Any narrowing which may be evinced with respect to subject matter covered by the claims as a whole, or by one or more claims of the appended claims whether amended, re-represented, or new, when compared to claims previously in the application, should not be interpreted as indicating that the Applicant has generally disclaimed the territory between the original claimed subject matter and the amended claimed subject matter. Amended claims elements are to be construed to include substantial equivalents known to those of ordinary skill in the art. Applicant asserts that any amendments transacted herein are made without prejudice and reserve all rights to prosecute any canceled claims, and claim structures preceding any amendment to a particular claim, and other disclosed (but not presently claimed) embodiments in the application, in future continuation applications, divisional applications, continuation-in-part applications, continuing prosecution applications, requests for continuing examination, re-examination applications and any other application claiming priority to the present application.

- **COMPLETE LIST OF CLAIMS THAT ARE OR HAVE BEEN BEFORE THE OFFICE**
  AFTER ENTRANCE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE HEREIN

The following claims constitute a complete list of claims that are or have been before the office after entrance of the amendments made herein. Amendments to the claims are indicated in accord with Revised 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (which while having an effective date of July 30, 2003 the USPTO is urging to be complied with at this time). In accord with such regulation, the listing of claims set forth below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

--CLAIMS AS PENDING IN THE APPLICATION WITH AMENDMENTS MADE HEREIN
START ON NEXT PAGE—

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A method for supporting security-trade financing <u>by a</u>

<u>trading company</u> for a company <u>with a limited number of deficient assets</u> seeking

capital <u>or assets</u>, comprising <u>the steps of</u>:

    a)   <u>a trading company (TC)</u> maintaining an inventory data base ~~including~~

<u>comprising</u> data <u>for</u> identifying <u>suitable trade</u> products <u>as trade-credits</u>;

    b)   <u>the TC</u> determining a cash/trade-credit blend for the purpose of providing

financing to ~~the~~ <u>a capital seeking</u> company <u>(CSC) holding limited assets</u> <u>upon valuation of said</u>

<u>company</u>, wherein the cash/trade-credit blend ~~includes~~ <u>comprises</u> a cash portion and a trade-

credit portion;

    c)   <u>the TC</u> receiving securities from the <u>CSC</u> ~~company~~ in exchange for the

trade-credit portion of the cash/trade-credit blend; and

    d)   <u>the TC</u> receiving at least a portion of the cash/trade-credit blend from the

<u>CSC</u> ~~company~~ in exchange for a proportional quantity of the products in <u>the TC's</u> inventory that

are desired by the <u>CSC</u> ~~company~~.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> method as recited in Claim 1, further ~~including~~

<u>comprising</u> the steps of:

    a)   <u>the TC</u> receiving deficient assets from a deficient asset <u>CSC</u> ~~company~~;

    b)   <u>the TC</u> transmitting trade credits to the deficient-asset <u>CSC</u> ~~company~~ to pay,

at least in part, for the deficient assets; and

    c)   <u>the TC</u> storing data identifying the deficient assets in the inventory data

base.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the

products identified in the <u>TC</u> inventory data base are categorized.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the

products are selected from the group consisting of goods and services.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the

cash/trade-credit blend is represented by a cash-credit ratio, and wherein the cash-credit ratio is

between 1/99 and 99/1, inclusive.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A method for <u>a trading company (TC)</u> supporting

security-trade financing for <u>facilitating growth of</u> a capital seeking company <u>(CSC) having</u>

<u>deficient assets</u>, comprising <u>the steps of</u>:

    a)   <u>the TC</u> storing data identifying inventory allocations and inventory

components desired by the <u>CSC</u> ~~company~~;

    b)   the TC calculating a total plan cost basis based on the inventory allocations

and cost bases of the inventory components;

    c)   the TC calculating a cash-credit ratio based on the total plan cost basis and a

desired plan cost basis;

    d)   <u>the TC</u> calculating one or more <u>than one</u> cash/trade-credit ~~blends~~ <u>blend</u>

based on the desired plan cost basis, the cash-credit ratio, and one or more <u>than one</u> investment

value ~~values~~; and

   e) the TC outputting ~~the~~ one or more <u>than one</u> cash/trade-credit <u>blend</u> ~~blends~~

for security-trade type financing of the CSC growth.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) [[A]] <u>The</u> method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the

desired plan cost basis is <u>comprises</u> ~~based on~~ valuations of the <u>CSC</u> ~~company~~.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) [[A]] <u>The</u> method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the

valuations <u>comprise</u> ~~include~~ an agreed-to valuation and a desired valuation.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) [[A]] <u>The</u> method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the

inventory components are selected from the group consisting of one or more <u>than one category</u>

~~categories~~ of inventory products and one or more <u>than one</u> particular inventory <u>product</u> ~~products~~.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) [[A]] <u>The</u> method as recited in Claim 9, further comprising

the step of the <u>TC</u> storing data <u>for</u> identifying ~~the~~ one or more <u>than one category</u> ~~categories~~ of

inventory products and data <u>for</u> identifying ~~the~~ one or more <u>than one</u> particular inventory

<u>product</u> ~~products~~ in an inventory data base.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) [[A]] <u>The</u> method as recited in Claim 10, further

comprising the step of <u>TC</u> storing data <u>for</u> identifying an actual cost basis of each of the ~~one or~~

~~more~~ particular inventory products.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The method as recited in Claim 10, further

comprising the step of TC storing data for identifying an estimated cost basis of each of the one

or more categories of inventory products.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the cost

bases of the inventory components are selected from the group consisting of an actual cost bases

basis and an estimated cost bases basis.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the total

plan cost basis is selected from the group consisting of a total actual plan cost basis and a total

estimated plan cost basis.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the cash-

credit ratio is between 1/99 and 99/1, inclusive.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The method as recited in Claim 6, further including

the step of storing a range of investment values and an increment value for use in calculating the

one or more cash/trade-credit blends.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the step of

calculating a total plan cost basis based on the inventory allocations and the cost bases of the

inventory components includes the step of comprises discounting each inventory component by a

rate-card discount.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A data processing system for supporting security-trade

financing <u>by a trading company</u> for <u>facilitating growth of</u> a ~~company seeking~~ capital <u>seeking</u>

<u>company having deficient assets</u>, comprising:

   (a)   <u>a</u> computer processor means for processing data;

   (b)   <u>a</u> storage means for storing data on a storage device;

   (c)   <u>a</u> first means for storing data identifying inventory allocations and

inventory components desired by the company in the storage device;

   (d)   <u>a</u> second means for calculating a total plan cost basis based on the

inventory allocations and cost bases of the inventory components;

   (e)   <u>a</u> third means for calculating a cash-credit ratio based on the total plan

cost basis and a desired plan cost basis;

   (f)   <u>a</u> fourth means for calculating one or more <u>than one</u> cash/trade-credit

blend ~~blends~~ based on the desired plan cost basis, the cash-credit ratio, and one or more<u> than one</u>

investment <u>value</u> ~~values~~; and

   (g)   <u>a</u> fifth means for outputting ~~the~~ one or more <u>than one</u> cash/trade-credit

blend ~~blends~~.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 18,

wherein the desired plan cost basis is based on valuations of the company.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 19,

wherein the valuations <u>comprise</u> ~~include~~ an agreed-to valuation and a desired valuation.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 18,

wherein the inventory components are selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ one or more <u>than</u>

<u>one category</u> ~~categories~~ of inventory products and one or more <u>than one</u> particular inventory

<u>product</u> ~~products~~.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 21,

further comprising a sixth means for storing data identifying the ~~one or more~~ categories of <u>the</u>

inventory products and data identifying the ~~one or more~~ particular inventory products in an

inventory data base.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 22,

further comprising a seventh means for storing data identifying an actual cost basis of each of the

~~one or more~~ particular inventory products.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 22,

further comprising an eighth means for storing data identifying an estimated cost basis of each of

the ~~one or more~~ categories of inventory products.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 18,

wherein the cost bases of the inventory components are selected from the group consisting of an

actual cost ~~bases~~ <u>basis</u> and an estimated cost ~~bases~~ <u>basis</u>.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 18,

wherein the total plan cost basis is selected from the group consisting of a total actual plan cost

basis and a total estimated plan cost basis.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 18,

wherein the cash-credit ratio is between 1/99 ad 99/1, inclusive.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 18,

further comprising ~~including~~ a ninth means for storing a range of investment values and an

increment value for ~~use in~~ calculating the ~~one or more~~ cash/trade-credit blends.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 18,

wherein the second means for calculating a total plan cost basis based on the inventory

allocations and the cost bases of the inventory components comprises ~~includes~~ a tenth means for

discounting each inventory component by a rate-card discount.

30. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A data processing system for supporting security-trade

financing by a trading company (TC) for a capital seeking company (CSC) ~~seeking capital~~ to

facilitate growth while holding a limited number of deficient assets, comprising:

        a storage device for a trading company storing data for identifying inventory

components and corresponding cost bases;

        a processor in communication with the storage device, wherein the processor is

operative to

(a) store data in the storage device <u>for</u> identifying inventory allocations and certain inventory components desired by the deficient-asset company,

a desired plan cost basis, and

one or more <u>than one</u> investment <u>value</u> ~~values~~;

(b) calculate a total plan cost basis based on the inventory allocations and the cost bases of the certain inventory components;

(c) calculate a cash-credit ratio based on the total plan cost basis and the desired plan cost basis;

(d) calculate ~~one or more~~ cash/trade-credit blends based on the desired plan cost basis, the cash-credit ratio, and the ~~one or more~~ investment <u>value</u> ~~values~~; and

(e) output the ~~one or more~~ cash/trade-credit blends.

31. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the desired plan cost basis is based on valuations of the <u>deficient-asset</u> company.

32. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 31, wherein the valuations of the company include an agreed-to valuation and a desired valuation.

33. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) [[A]] <u>The</u> data processing system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the inventory components are selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ one or more <u>than</u> <u>one category</u> ~~categories~~ of inventory products and one or more <u>than one</u> particular inventory <u>product</u> ~~products~~.

34. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 33, wherein the processor is further operative to store data identifying each of the one or more categories of inventory products and data for identifying each of the one or more particular inventory products in a inventory data base.

35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 34, wherein the processor is further operative to store data identifying an actual cost basis of each of the one or more particular inventory products.

36. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 34, wherein the processor is further operative to store data identifying an estimated cost basis of each of the one or more categories of inventory products.

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the cost bases of the inventory components are selected from the group consisting of an actual cost bases basis and an estimated cost bases basis.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the total plan cost basis is selected from the group consisting of a total actual plan cost basis and a total estimated plan cost basis.

39. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the cash-credit ratio is between 1/99 ad 99/1, inclusive.

40. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   [[A]] The data processing system as recited in Claim 30,

wherein the processor is further operative to store a range of investment values and an increment

value for use in calculating the one or more cash/trade-credit blends.